

1964, was elected to the Board of Governors of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, a position he held continuously until 1977. He served as Chairman of the Exchange from 1967 to 1968 and was inducted into the FIA Futures Hall of Fame in 2007.

During his tenure on the Board of Governors, contracts on live animals were successfully introduced to the market, representing the first in a wave of innovation in contract design. He was also involved in changing the structure of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange to make it more democratic and in revitalizing the audits and investigations department to attract new exchange members.

Mr. O'Brien's entrepreneurial spirit is best illustrated in his countless contributions to the futures industry as he built the largest independent futures brokerage and clearing firm in the United States. He pioneered new industry practices and created opportunity for others, including taking delivery of the first live cattle contract traded on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, broadcasting the first live commodity report from the trading floor, and sponsoring the first woman to work on the trading floor in 1966.

The longevity of Mr. O'Brien's career and the lasting success of his company are a testament to the focus placed on the relationships that have been built with more than 80,000 clients, his employees, and his family. Mr. O'Brien is survived by five children, 22 grandchildren, and 33 great grandchildren.●

#### RECOGNIZING BOWLING GREEN UTILITY WORKERS

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, during the early morning hours of December 11, 2021, Kentucky endured a series of tornadoes that proved to be the deadliest storms in the Commonwealth's history. There was damage throughout Southern Kentucky and beyond. Roofs were ripped off and trees snapped like twigs, but in this difficult time our community continues to come together and help one another. Immediately after, volunteers from all around Kentucky and even outside the Commonwealth showed up to help clean up the debris. Despite the devastation, I am reminded that the unbridled spirit of our Commonwealth shines its brightest during these times of adversity.

Of the many heroes that emerged during this crisis were the people of Bowling Green Municipal Utilities who immediately responded to the destruction and worked collectively to restore electricity to countless homes. Bowling Green Municipal Utilities reported 24,000 of its 31,500 customers were initially without power and 52 transmission polls had been severely damaged. By the next morning half of these powerless homes had their electricity restored. This should have been time for the men and women of BGMU to enjoy the upcoming holiday season. Instead, they responded to the call of

duty, working long shifts in the freezing cold. Because of their efforts, they were able to restore power to countless members of the community and provided relief to those most in need. We have a long road to recovery, but if we all display the perseverance our linemen and Kentuckians demonstrated, the Commonwealth will soon be back better than ever. I would like to personally thank people of Bowling Green Municipal Utilities for their continued service to all the impacted communities.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE EMPLOYEES OF 5 STAR ELECTRIC

● Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, during the early morning hours of December 11, 2021, Kentucky endured a series of tornadoes that proved to be the deadliest storms in the Commonwealth's history. There was damage throughout Southern Kentucky and beyond. Roofs were ripped off and trees snapped like twigs, but in this difficult time our community continues to come together and help one another. Immediately after, volunteers from all around Kentucky and even outside the Commonwealth showed up to help clear the debris. Despite the devastation, I am reminded that the unbridled spirit of our Commonwealth shines its brightest during these times of adversity.

Of the many heroes that emerged during this crisis were the people of 5 Star Electric who immediately responded to the destruction. 5 Star Electric sent out 140 linemen to restore the electrical grid, and, after a second storm hit Christian County later in the month, sent multiple crews to Hopkinsville to provide assistance to the impacted communities.

This should have been time for the men and women of 5 Star Electric to enjoy the upcoming holiday season. Instead, they responded to the call of duty, working long shifts in the freezing cold. Because of their efforts, they were able to restore power to countless members of the community and provided relief to those most in need. We have a long road to recovery, but if we all display the perseverance our linemen and Kentuckians demonstrated, the Commonwealth will soon be back better than ever. I would like to personally thank the people of 5 Star Electric for their continued service to all the impacted communities.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Swann, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations

which were referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:35 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1836. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the time during which members of the Armed Forces serve on active duty for training qualifies for educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5746) an act to amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of nonexcess property of the Administration, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1836. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the time during which members of the Armed Forces serve on active duty for training qualifies for educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CASEY, from the Special Committee on Aging:

Special Report entitled "Financial Literacy in Retirement: Providing Just-In-Time Information and Assistance for Older Americans and People with Disabilities" (Rept. No. 117-54).

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mrs. MURRAY for the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

\*Linda A. Puchala, of Maryland, to be Member of the National Mediation Board for a term expiring July 1, 2024.

\*Javier Ramirez, of Illinois, to be Federal Mediation and Conciliation Director.

\*Jose Javier Rodriguez, of Florida, to be an Assistant Secretary of Labor.

\*David Weil, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor.

\*Robert McKinnon Califf, of North Carolina, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.